Decision to start new FM Channels

2953. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prasar Bharati has decided to start 10 new FM channels on 26th January, 2001;

(b) the terms and conditions of clearance;

(c) the main features of the proposal;

(d) whether any proposal in this regard has been discussed with concerned parties; and

(e) the States where these will be started?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Infrastructure Development for Film Industry

2954. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that smaller countries like Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Mauritius etc. have developed wonderful infrastructure for film making which attract film makers from all corners of world including India to shoot their films at these destinations thereby generating huge foreign exchange;

(b) if so, whether Government have any plans to develop infrastructure of world class for film making to attract film makers in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) According to information received from National Film Development Corporation Ltd., film makers from India are going to countries like Malaysia, Singapore and Mauritius etc. for location shooting but not for utilizing "infrastructure" available in these countries.

(b) and (c) The Indian film industry has world class studio and laboratory facilities for film making available at various centers within the country. The Indian film industry is also capable of absorbing the rapid technological changes in this field.